

DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES DISTRICT I

February 5, 2001

7:00 p.m.

Atwater Community Center, 2755 E. 19th

Members Present

Council Member Rogers
Carl Brewer
Patrice Dolenz
David Franks
Kenneth Hemmen
Carrie Jones
Lori Lawrence*
Debby Moore
Sharon Myers
Steve Roberts*
Marcia Traylor
Lois Tully-Gerber

Members Absent

Edith Knox*
Rev. Lincoln Montgomery*
Willard Walker*
Billy Wilson
Ken Woodard*
Dee Wright

Guest List

Frances Crowley, 5706 E 20th
John McFadden, 5110 E 21st
Bob Kaplan, 430 N Market
Willie Burton, 2356 N Poplar
Maaskelah Chinyere-Jeng, CMO
Donna Goltry, MAPD, 455 N Main
Gene Rath, City Engineer's Office
Candyce Portley, 2424 N Battin
Jancinda Portley, 4813 E Looman
Barbara Johns, 5101 E. Looman
Chris Carrier, 455 N. Main
Tim Meyer, MKEC, 411 N Webb
Officer Brian Safris, WPD
Treatha Foster, 2211 N Kansas
Bill Foster, 2211 N Kansas
James Barfield, 2131 N Edgemoor
Sherdeill Breathett, 4913 E. 24th St
Genise Brethett, 4913 E 24th St
Patricia Maloney, 5002 Arlene
Lawrence Andrews, 2514 N. Bleckley Dr.
Charline Andrews, 2514 N. Bleckley Dr.

*Denotes District Advisory Board Alternates

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Call to Order

Council Member Rogers called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Council Member Rogers asked if there were any changes to the minutes from the December 4, 2000 or January 8, 2001 DAB meetings. **Debby Moore** had corrections for the January 8, 2001 CSBG report. The following corrections were noted 1)

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Approval of Agenda

Council Member Rogers asked if there were any additions or changes to the February 5, 2001 agenda. No changes were submitted.

Public Agenda

1. Scheduled items – No items were Submitted

2. Off-agenda items

2a. Council Member Rogers stated that he spoke with **Bishop Gilkey**, owner of University Plaza, is requesting comments from the public regarding the demolition of the west wall at University Plaza. **Bishop Gilkey** stated that the west wall has created difficulty in marketing the facility. Therefore, **Bishop Gilkey** would like to have the west wall removed to increase the visibility of the shopping mall. **Bishop Gilkey** is planning to replace the wall with shrubbery. Before beginning this project, **Bishop Gilkey** wanted input from DAB members and the community. **Council Member Rogers** stated he had polled several residents in the immediate area, and there were no oppositions to **Bishop Gilkey's** proposal. **Council Member Rogers** asked DAB members if they had any input. **Lois Tulley-Gerber** asked if there had been any comments from the Timbers or CPRF. **Council Member Rogers** stated that he had not heard from either facility.

Unfinished Business

No items were submitted

Staff Presentations

3. Presentation from Northeast Community Education Coordinator.

Maaskelah Chinyere-Jeng, *Northeast Community Education Coordinator* made a presentation concerning the function of her department and programs available to citizens. Chinyere-Jeng gave the definition of *Community Education* as:

The educational philosophy that advocates the creation of opportunities for community members --- individuals, schools, businesses, and public and private organizations --- to become partners in addressing community needs.

Community Education is most easily recognized in the concept of ***the community learning center or the community school***, a traditional school facility that is open beyond the traditional school day for the purpose of providing academic, recreational, health and social services and workforce development programs for people of ***ALL*** ages.

History of *Community Education* in Wichita – 1993 to present

- City Manager/Mayor and Council introduced in 1993
- Federal Department of Justice funded the Neighborhood Initiative
- First *Community Education* center at Colvin 1994
- Second center at NEM 1996
- Two additional centers: Hadley, Stanley/Aley 1999
- 1998 – 21st Century Learning Center Funding via Department of Education
- District Initiative via 21st Century Learning Center funding
- 10 middle schools last year
- Two elementary schools in June 2001

Vision for *Community Education* (C.E.) in Wichita

- Development of Community Learning Centers
 - ❖ Guided by community input, via a community wide, broad-based advisory council, charged with:
 - ❖ Ongoing assessment of community needs
 - ❖ Recommendations for programming
- Northeast Advisory Council
 - ❖ Broadbased: education, business, media, residents, higher education, service organizations, etc.
 - ❖ Actively engaged in assessment and strategic planning

❖ **Recommendations:**

- Re-instatement of morals and values in our youth
- Educational support for basic skills (i.e. reading and math)
- Educational opportunities for both youth AND adults

Chinyere-Jeng stated her charge is to find or build such programming. Of particular interest, is an afterschool program for youth.

Chinyere-Jeng's Role Includes, but is not limited to:

- ❖ Overseeing facility use and oversight of programs and activities
- ❖ Facilitating cooperation and collaboration among those in control of resources that might benefit residents of this community
- ❖ Providing leadership training for community members
- ❖ Assisting and supporting strategic planning, *for this program and community education, as a whole*
- ❖ Facilitating positive and effective communication (among program staff and the community)
- ❖ Being involved in public relations activities
- ❖ Maintaining ongoing documentation of initiative goals, objectives, expected outcomes, and participation
- ❖ Performing program evaluation, for the purpose of adjustments and modifications, where appropriate.

Council Member Rogers (Moore) made a motion to receive and file information.

Public Works

4. Paving of Mead from Lincoln to Bayley

Gene Rath, a representative from the City Engineer's office, Public Works Department, explained the Mead Street paving project. Rath stated that Public Works had received a petition for paving the west side of Mead Street, between Bayley and Lincoln. The estimated cost of the project is \$80,000. Properties would be assessed at an estimated rate of ninety cents (\$0.90) per square foot of property owned. The petition submitted was a majority petition. This case is scheduled to go before the City Council on March 6, 2001.

Council Member Rogers asked if there were any future plans for the railroad in this area. **Rath** stated that he did not believe the elevation of the railroad tracks would change in this block.

Hemmen (Brewer) made a motion to approve the paving request as submitted. Motion carried.

5. Wichita Drainage Canal

Chris Carrier, from Public Works, presented information regarding the Wichita Drainage Canal. **Carrier** stated that this summer, Public Works would begin phase II of the drainage canal improvements. **Carrier** distributed pictures to the DAB members and stated that the first picture showed the canal in its current state. The second picture showed the proposed changes for phase II of the project. **Carrier** stated that the improvements would make maintaining the canal easier as well as increasing the carrying capacity of the canal. Additionally, **Carrier** stated that the canal improvements were part of the city's *CIP (Capital Improvement Plan)* for 2001. A total of 3.7 million dollars has been budgeted for the project. Public Works estimates that the project will cost 3.3 million dollars. **Carrier** stated that the balance of the money will go toward unforeseen items, such as inspections. **Carrier** then asked that the DAB members make a recommendation to proceed with the project.

Moore asked if the completed improvements would look like the ones on 3rd Street. **Carrier** stated that the improvements would look more like the picture (picture 3). **Carrie Jones** asked if there was an anticipated completions date. **Carrier** responded that the completion date was dependent on the weather; the project should begin early summer. **Council Member Rogers** asked the DAAB members to make a recommendation. **Moore (Brewer)** made a motion to approve to proceed with phase II. Motion carried 9-0.

Planning Cases

6. Case No.: CUP2000-00054 DP-08 Amendment #9 (Associated with ZON2000-00056)

Request: Amendment to the University Gardens Community Unit Plan to allow indoor storage of construction and equipment and vehicles.

Location: Northwest corner of 21st Street North and Oliver

Supporting documents "MAPC Notice of Public Hearing" and "Staff Report"

The agent, **Bob Kaplan**, representative for John **McFadden** (applicant), stated that the applicant has agreed to: 1) construct a steel building with brick wanes-coating on the south and west sides to house the construction equipment; and 2) construct an eight foot brick wall to conceal the building.

The DAB Members expressed the following concerns: 1) Applicant's non-compliance to current zoning codes; 2) Applicant's inability to work with the neighborhood association; and 3) Applicant's current facility upkeep.

Barbara Johns, representative for the Chisholm Creek neighborhood association and **Frances Crowley**, representative for the 21st & Oliver Community Action Committee were present at this meeting; voicing opposition of the CUP with a pictures of Applicant's property, in addition to a letter and neighborhood plan. Neighborhood concerns included 1) Previous attempts to work with Applicant regarding the maintenance of his property, with no response; 2) Applicant's inability to maintain a new structure; 3) Keeping property use in line with current zoning (light retail); 4) Concerns for safety of the neighborhood children and elderly; 5) New building would detract from other potential retailers and potential clientele; and 6) Project is not in line with the City's CIP; change in zoning may attract heavier commercial development.

The DAB members voted 7-2 to recommend DENIAL of the Community Unit Plan request.

New Business

7. Council Compensation Charter Ordinance

The City Council considered a proposal for a Charter Ordinance that will establish new terms of compensation for City Council Members and the Mayor. The Council referred the proposal to the District Advisory Boards for public input.

Council Member Rogers stated that he and **Council Member Cole** supported the increase for several reasons, including 1) An affective council member should be able to focus solely on City Council issues/business (i.e.: municipal bonds, zoning codes, overseeing of water department, etc.). 2) Every citizen should have the right to run for City Council. 3) With over 300,000 citizens in the City of Wichita, being a "part-time" council member makes it hard to respond to all citizen concerns. 4) Council Members should be compensated with a livable wage, so they would not have to have a full-time job to maintain day-to-day living expenses.

A lengthy discussion ensued. Issues raised included 1) Council Member position being a full-time position. 2) DAB members stated that various citizens they polled would not support the increase. 3) Raising the council member compensation to a livable wage actually opens council seat to every citizen. 4) Council member should be adequately compensated for what they do. 5) If council

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members are to be held responsible for the job that they do, they need to be compensated and treat Council position as a full-time position; council should be their only job.

Members of two Neighborhood Associations (Chisholm Creek and Northeast Milliar), were present and stated that they supported the proposed increase in Council compensation.

James Barfield stated that the compensation increase and council seat as a full-time position will not sell to the citizens of Wichita because citizens will think that they are paying twice for the same services (City Manager, Mayor and/or City Council). **Council Member Rogers** stated that it was a state mandate that this type of government is set up including these positions (City Manager, Mayor and City Council). Council Member Rogers also stated that one part-time person can not respond to 66,000 in one week.

Moore made a motion that DAB I support the proposed salary increase to \$30,000/year for City Council Members, and the Mayoral salary increase to \$ 75,000/year for 2001 with the consideration that both positions listed above be considered full-time positions. Motion carried 9-0.

Board Agenda

No Items were submitted

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General Comments/Announcements

Council Member Rogers reminded the DAB members of the following:

- DAB members need to turn in completed surveys to the Neighborhood Assistant
- Neighborhood University, Saturday, February 24, 2001 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Sedgwick County Extension Office, 21st and Ridge Road.
- Upcoming CIP Process/Workshops Early to mid-March (See attachment)

Being no further business, **Council Member Rogers** adjourned the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

Submitted By,

Heidi Framer-Drew
Neighborhood Assistant,
Council District I